

Remarks

The Office Action dated March 23, 2009, has been received and carefully reviewed. The preceding amendments and the following remarks form a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1 and 3-11 are amended as to matters of form only. No new matter is added. Claims 12 and 14-19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-11 are pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration.

Applicant acknowledges and thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowability of the process claims 1 and 3-11. While Applicant disagrees with respect the rejection of the product-by-process claims, those claims have been cancelled in order to expedite allowance of claims 1 and 3-11. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to claims 12 and 14-19.

Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the present application on March 13, 2009. The claims have been amended consistent with that discussion.

Objections were made to claims 1, 3-12 and 14-19 because of minor informalities. Claims 12 and 14-19 were cancelled and therefore the objections thereto are moot. Claims 1 and 3-11 have been amended to correct the noted informalities. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objections be withdrawn.

Claims 10, 12 and 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. Claim 10 has been amended to delete the term

“so-called.” Thus, claim 10 complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112 and the rejection to claim 10 must be withdrawn. As noted above, claims 12 and 14-19 have been cancelled.

Claims 12 and 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards. As noted above, claims 12 and 14-19 have been cancelled.

In view of the above, all objections and rejections have been sufficiently addressed. The Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and request that claims 1 and 3-11 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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